

REFERENCE TITLE: **internet pornography; limited access.**

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-eighth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2008

HCM 2001

Introduced by
Representatives Reagan, Adams, Crandall

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PROHIBIT ACCESS TO INTERNET PORNOGRAPHY BY CHILDREN AND EMPLOYEES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, the internet has become an extremely important and popular
4 means of exchanging information, and it is relied on in Arizona for business,
5 education, recreation and other uses; and

6 Whereas, many internet sites contain material that is pornographic,
7 either obscene or inappropriate for children, and a majority of these sites
8 originate in the United States but outside of Arizona; and

9 Whereas, the availability of internet pornography on the job costs
10 Arizona employers a significant number of work hours, strains employers'
11 computer equipment, reduces productivity and leads to potentially hostile
12 work environments; and

13 Whereas, while the custody, care and nurturing of children reside
14 primarily with parents, the widespread availability of internet pornography
15 and the ability of children to circumvent existing filtering technology
16 defeat the best attempts at parental supervision and control; and

17 Whereas, internet pornographers use evolving techniques to lure
18 Arizona's children and others into viewing and purchasing pornographic
19 material, defying existing technology designed to block adult content; and

20 Whereas, current methods for protecting computers and computer networks
21 from unwanted internet content are expensive and easily circumvented and
22 block more than the intended content; and

23 Whereas, because children, employees and others may seek out
24 pornography, warnings and other labels meant to help avoid inadvertent hits
25 on pornographic sites may actually increase the likelihood that these sites
26 will be visited; and

27 Whereas, credit card verification systems burden credit card companies,
28 are expensive and time-consuming to establish and maintain and inhibit legal
29 speech; and

30 Whereas, other forms of age verification have not been practicable; and

31 Whereas, prior congressional attempts to address children's access to
32 internet pornography have been held unconstitutional or otherwise have not
33 passed constitutional scrutiny, and have not been based on technology that
34 allows individual internet users to select the internet content that enters
35 their homes and work places; and

36 Whereas, protecting the physical and psychological well-being of
37 Arizona's children by shielding them from inappropriate materials is a
38 compelling state interest, as is protecting the right of Arizona's citizens
39 to control the materials that enter their homes and other private property;
40 and

41 Whereas, although the State of Arizona has taken rigorous action in an
42 attempt to shield Arizona's children from obscenity and other inappropriate
43 adult content, it cannot effectively curb the problems with internet
44 pornography within its borders without the support of the United States
45 government; and

1 Whereas, the United States remains in control of the internet through
2 the United States Department of Commerce and the National Telecommunication
3 and Information Association; and

4 Whereas, the United States has the ability to create appropriate
5 policies and enforcement tools to effectively deal with these issues.

6 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of
7 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

8 1. That the United States Congress take action to help stop children
9 and employees from accessing internet pornography by enacting legislation to
10 facilitate a technology-based solution that allows parents and employers to
11 subscribe to internet access services that exclude adult content.

12 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies
13 of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of
14 the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from
15 the State of Arizona.